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Course: Ed. 7201T

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**Reflection 1**

**TOPIC: How do the ideals of social justice, collaboration, critical self-evaluation and diversity align with our course objectives and outcomes, and pertain to us in our role as pedagogues?**

Our course Ed. 7201T which is ‘Seminar in Applied Theory and Research’ provides us with “an introduction to research methods in education, specifically Action Research. It is expected that upon completion of this course we will be equipped with knowledge and skills which will enable us to successfully complete an Action Research based on a topic of our choice.

In order to successfully complete this course, there are specific objectives which are designed to help us in obtaining our goals. These objectives serve to assist us in obtaining a clear and definite description of research and its different purposes. We will also be able to demonstrate and discuss the use of Action Research in education, ethical issues involved, and implications for us as teachers. In order for us to successfully complete the tasks and objectives, we will also be required to draw upon our writing and data collection skills as we skillfully research and compile existing literature which we are expected to review and use as a foundation for our research.

The objectives of our course as described above, embraces the Conceptual Framework of the School of Education. This Conceptual Framework “revolves around four themes that overlap and inform one another: Diversity, Collaboration, Social Justice, and Critical Self-Reflection and Reflective Practice. These four themes align with the knowledge, skills and dispositions outlined by the New York State Education Department…” My task here is to show how the ideals of social justice, collaboration, critical self-evaluation and diversity align with our course objectives and outcomes, and pertain to us in our role as pedagogues.

Social Justice aims at eliminating the inequalities existing within the fabric of our society. Our course is designed to equip us with the knowledge that would assist us in providing the best service for the students in our community. Through our research, we will familiarize ourselves with the theories and views posited my various researchers. Their work will serve as a foundation for the many decisions which we will have to make when considering out student’s socioeconomic status. At Brooklyn College, some textbooks are provided at affordable costs. The Book and Net libraries serve students who may not get access to a computer of internet. Likewise, as educators we will be trained to present content and learning opportunities to all our students, using methods that are economically viable.

Within our society of learners, there exists a diverse population that includes persons from various ethnic and religious backgrounds. Through our objective we are expected to structure our lessons and use resources that will foster respect and tolerance for the cultural and religious views of each individual.

In order to maintain social justice in a diverse society, we as educators need to rely on all assistance possible. In so doing we would need to collaborate with social and religious groups in our society. We would need to forge a bond with parents and community leaders as we implement the state’s curriculum. We will be required to involve the learners whose physical, mental, and social growth depend upon the curriculum that we implement and the method that we use. Our research is geared towards providing evidence that the learner is the most important person to consider as we collaborate as educators, and with the rest of the society to find the best method of utilizing each child’s learning style to create positive change.

As we conduct our research we will be involved in the process of evaluating ourselves and each other. We will need to evaluate and reflect on the method that we will use to gather our data. We will need to evaluate possible outcomes of our intended methods and their possible implications. In so doing we will be required to critically analyze the work of our peers and our own research.

SOURCE

Brooklyn College School of Education (2009). *Conceptual Framework*. Retrieved September 25, 2010, Brooklyn College, The School of Education Web site: <http://schooled.brooklyn.cuny.edu/IR-CF.htm>